

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission's Blue Ribbon Panel on Accountability, Credibility and Efficiency

Whereas, the Highways and Transportation Commission (hereafter "Commission") believes that there have been numerous changes, both statutory and within the Missouri Department of Transportation (hereafter "MoDOT"), that have significantly increased MoDOT's accountability, credibility and efficiency;

Whereas, the Commission believes that MoDOT and the Commission itself, like all state departments and bureaucracies, must constantly strive to further improve its overall accountability, credibility and efficiency;

Whereas, the Commission understands that one of the keys to meeting the challenges and opportunities of the future is to continually earn the respect and trust of the citizens and taxpayers of Missouri;

Whereas, the Commission understands that the best way to earn the respect and trust of the citizens and taxpayers of Missouri is to listen to the concerns, suggestions and comments of the citizens and taxpayers of Missouri;

Whereas, the Commission feels that a group of citizens, independent of the Commission, MoDOT and affiliated state agencies, could more objectively review the operations and decision-making processes of MoDOT and the Commission;

Whereas, the Commission wishes to appoint a Blue Ribbon Panel to help MoDOT and the Commission meet future challenges and opportunities, including increasing MoDOT's and the Commission's overall accountability, credibility and efficiency;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Commission that there is herein created the "Blue Ribbon Panel on Accountability, Credibility and Efficiency" (hereafter "Blue Ribbon Panel") made up of 12 citizen leaders appointed by the Chairman of the Commission after conferring with Commission members.

Be It Further Resolved that the Blue Ribbon Panel is hereby charged with the following responsibilities:

1. Review the constitutional, statutory and rule provisions regarding the issue of governance for the commission and MoDOT and make recommendations for future modifications.
2. Review the constitutional, statutory and rule provisions regarding the issues of accountability, credibility and efficiency and make appropriate recommendations for future modifications.
3. Review all federal and state funds that MoDOT currently receives and make appropriate recommendations, including how to maximize and increase said

revenue. This review must include how much transportation revenue – fuel tax, vehicle license and registration fees, etc. – is appropriated to other government agencies.

4. Review how MoDOT spends all federal and state funds currently received and make appropriate recommendations.
5. Compare MoDOT to other state departments of transportation regarding funding sources, organization, funding for all modes of transportation, miles maintained and owned, change order costs, bidding methods, and any other comparable and relevant issues, and make appropriate recommendations.
6. Review all appropriate MoDOT and commission operations and activities and make recommendations that could improve efficiency, accountability and public trust.
7. Any other issue the commission or panel deems worthy of review.

Be It Further Resolved that the Blue Ribbon Panel shall present a final report, including recommendations, to the commission on or before August 31, 2003 unless said deadline is extended by the commission;

Be It Further Resolved that the Blue Ribbon Panel may solicit any input and information necessary to fulfill its responsibilities from any and all sources that the panel may find useful;

Be It Further Resolved that Commission Secretary shall provide logistic and clerical assistance to the panel as needed; the Commission Chief Counsel shall provide legal advice to the panel as needed; and MoDOT staff shall provide research and technical services to the panel as needed; and

Be It Further Resolved that all the reasonable and necessary expenses of the Blue Ribbon Panel shall be paid by MoDOT.